

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUALA 04303 190024Z
ACTION EA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
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INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
DEA HQS WASHDC
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STATE AND EMBASSIES HANDLE AS LIMDIS

POSTS PASS DEA FROM SAID POWERS; BANGKOK PASS SONGKHLA FOR ACTION;
HQS PASS ENOF, IG

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR
SUBJ: GFWA-76-8005 THAI/MALAYSIAN BORDER

1. SYNOPSIS

DURING THE PERIOD MAY 10 - MAY 12, 1978 DEPUTY DIRECTOR JERRY LIEW WING LIN, MALAYSIAN CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION, AND GENERAL PAIROTE, COMMANDER, BORDER PATROL POLICE, SONGKHLA HELD AN UNOFFICIAL CONFERENCE CONCERNING THE INCREASING PROBLEM OF HEROIN TRANSITING THE THAI/MALAYSIAN BORDER. THIS CONFERENCE, IN HAAD YAI, THAILAND WAS DEEMED BY ALL PARTICIPANTS TO BE A INITIAL STEP IN NEUTRALIZING THE FLOW OF HEROIN ACROSS THE BORDER.

DETAILS

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2. THE DEA KUALA LUMPUR DISTRICT OFFICE AND SONGKHLA DO HAVE ATTEMPTED TO ESTABLISH A WORKING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PAIROTE AND LIEW FOR OVER ONE YEAR, AND THE TWO DEA OFFICES HAVE ATTEMPTED TO SCHEDULE THIS MEETING ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. ONCE TOGETHER, WITH DEA PARTICIPATING AT ALL MEETINGS, BOTH PAIROTE AND LIEW COMPARED INTELLIGENCE ON KNOWN TRAFFICKERS. IT WAS APPARENT THAT BOTH SIDES HAD SIMILAR INTELLIGENCE AS TO MAJOR

TRAFFICKERS, AND TRAFFICKING PATTERNS. BOTH OFFICERS WERE EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN A JOINT DEBRIEFING OF KRACHANG SAMNEN (V) A MAJOR HEROIN SOURCE WITH DUAL (THAI/MALAYSIAN) CITIZENSHIP, CURRENTLY INCARCERATED IN PENANG, MALAYSIA. IN ADDITION INTELLIGENCE COMPARISON INDICATED BOTH SIDES WERE AWARE OF HEROIN SMUGGLING IN FISH AND CHARCOAL TRUCKS.

3. ON MAY 12, 1978 THE DISCUSSION TURNED TO A CONVENIENT METHOD OF COMMUNICATIONS. ALL PARTICIPANTS ACCEDED THE FACT THAT DEA COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES ARE TOO CUMBERSOME AND THROUGH TOO MANY CHANNELS TO BE EFFECTIVE. DEPUTY DIRECTOR LIEW OFFERED TO RESEARCH A METHOD TO CODE THE POLICE TELEPRINTER, WHICH NETS THE MALAYSIAN LIAISON OFFICER IN SONGKHLA WITH POLICE HEADQUARTERS, KUALA LUMPUR. GENERAL PAIROTE THEN REQUESTED D. DIRECTOR LIEW TO GIVE CONSIDERATION TO UTILIZING MALAYSIAN UNDERCOVER AGENTS IN HAAD YAI. PAIROTE DETAILED THE AMOUNT OF MALAYSIANS TRAVELING TO HAAD YAI AND THE FACT THAT HIS (PAIROTE'S) UNDERCOVER OFFICERS WERE CONTINUALLY ASKED FOR PROOF OF MALAYSIAN CITIZENSHIP WHEN POSING AS MALAYSIAN BUYERS. THERE WAS NO DECISION MADE IN THIS AREA, BUT LIEW STATED HE WOULD RESEARCH THIS PROBLEM. ALSO ON MAY 12, UTILIZING A BPP HELICOPTER, A RECON WAS MADE OF THE BORDER. DURING THE FLIGHT PAIROTE AND LIEW POINTED OUT KNOWN TRAFFICKING ROUTES AND THE NEED FOR JOINT OPERATIONS.

4. BOTH OFFICERS HAVE AGREED THAT ANOTHER MEETING IS NECESSARY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONCERNING THE ANDAMAN SEA COAST, PARTICULARLY PHUKET, PULAN LANGKAWI, AND PENANG. BOTH OFFICERS AGREED THAT TRAFFICKERS WERE UTILIZING SMALL BOATS TO TRANSPORT OPIATES FROM THAILAND TO MALAYSIA. A THIRD CONFERENCE WAS TENTATIVELY PLANNED FOR KUALA LUMPUR, AGAIN BOTH OFFICERS AGREEING THAT SINGAPORE SHOULD BE INCLUDED SINCE BOTH THAILAND AND MALAYSIA WERE SOURCE COUNTRIES FOR SINGAPORE.

5. (DEA SENSITIVE) UPON HIS RETURN TO KUALA LUMPUR D. DIRECTOR LIEW IMMEDIATELY INITIATED ACTION TO REPLACE HIS LIAISON OFFICER IN SONGKHLA WITH A YOUNG, AGGRESSIVE OFFICER FROM ALOR SETAR, MALAYSIA. THE NEW LIAISON OFFICER IS KNOWN TO KLDO AS A CAPABLE NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION OFFICER WITH A WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF THE THAI LANGUAGE.

6. AS PREVIOUSLY STATED THIS MEETING PROMOTED THE INITIAL EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION FROM BOTH SIDES. THE FACT THAT THAILAND IS THE MAJOR SOURCE OF HEROIN FOR MALAYSIA WAS OPENLY DISCUSSED AND THE OPERATIONAL VALUE OF CLOSE COOPERATION WAS THE MAJOR TALKING POINT. THE TWO DEA OFFICES ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE INITIAL EXCHANGE WILL BE BORADENED TO REGULAR MEETINGS OF WORKING LEVEL POLICE.

MILLER

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